

## ***Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further*** ***International Bible Lessons***

**Acts 9:10-20**

**Sunday, August 20, 2017**

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Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The *Class Preparation Guide* includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class so they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible class.

### **Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further**

**1. Why do you think Saul and other religious leaders hated Jesus Christ and the Christians who followed Him?**

Jesus did not meet their expectations politically; he did not come as a conquering military hero to free the Jews

from Roman oppression and reestablish the kingdom of David on earth. Jesus challenged their religious authority by not bowing to them as the most important religious leaders in Jerusalem that everyone should obey. Jesus' kingdom is not of this world, and these religious leaders were of this world.

**2. What is one good effect that God worked out when the Christians in Jerusalem came under persecution?**

The good news of Jesus Christ was spread beyond Jerusalem into Judea, Samaria, and other places as Jesus had commanded His disciples. The good news of Jesus Christ was taught in many of the synagogues outside of Jerusalem.

**3. When Jesus spoke to Ananias, what did Ananias say to Jesus? What did Ananias do?**

Ananias told Jesus that Saul was known to be a persecutor of the Church. Ananias obeyed Jesus.

**4. Why do you think Saul/Paul would suffer much after he became a Christian? Do you think that was Jesus' punishment for his previous sins? Why or why not?**

Saul could not turn back the clock and stop the persecutions he had encouraged. No. Jesus had completely

forgiven his sins.

## **5. What did Saul do after he believed in Jesus?**

He was baptized immediately and began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

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